

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Local Governmental Acceptance of Credit  
5 Cards Act is amended by changing Section 20 as follows:

6 (50 ILCS 345/20)

7 Sec. 20. Election by local governmental entities to accept  
8 credit cards.

9 (a) The decision whether to accept credit card payments  
10 for any particular type of obligation shall be made by the  
11 governing body of the local governmental entity that has  
12 general discretionary authority over the manner of acceptance  
13 of payments. The governing body may adopt reasonable rules  
14 governing the manner of acceptance of payments by credit card.  
15 Except as provided in subsection (b) of Section 20-25 of the  
16 Property Tax Code, no decision to accept credit card payments  
17 under this Act shall be made until the governing body has  
18 determined, following a public hearing held not sooner than 10  
19 nor later than 30 days following public notice of the hearing,  
20 that the acceptance of credit card payments for the types of  
21 authorized obligations specified in the public notice is in  
22 the best interests of the citizens and governmental  
23 administration of the local governmental entity or community

1 college and of the students and taxpayers thereof.

2 (b) The governing body of the entity accepting payment by  
3 credit card may enter into agreements with one or more  
4 financial institutions or other service providers to  
5 facilitate the acceptance and processing of credit card  
6 payments. Such agreements shall identify the specific services  
7 to be provided, an itemized list of the fees charged, and the  
8 means by which each such fee shall be paid. Such agreements may  
9 include a discount fee to cover the costs of interchange,  
10 assessments and authorizations, a per item processing fee for  
11 the service provider, and any other fee, including a payment  
12 of a surcharge or convenience fee, that may be applicable to  
13 specific circumstances. Any agreement for acceptance of  
14 payments by credit cards may be canceled by the governmental  
15 entity upon giving reasonable notice of intent to cancel. No  
16 agreement or contract with a local governmental entity may  
17 prohibit or discriminate against the use of the State  
18 Treasurer's E-Pay program under the State Treasurer Act or any  
19 other payment processing system that the local governmental  
20 entity has procured.

21 (c) An entity accepting payments by credit card may pay  
22 amounts due a financial institution or other service provider  
23 by (i) paying the financial institution or other service  
24 provider upon presentation of an invoice or (ii) allowing the  
25 financial institution or other service provider to withhold  
26 the amount of the fees from the credit card payment. A discount

1 or processing fee may be authorized whenever the governing  
2 body of the entity determines that any reduction of revenue  
3 resulting from the discount or processing fee will be in the  
4 best interest of the entity. Items that may be considered in  
5 making a determination to authorize the payment of fees or the  
6 acceptance of a discount include, but are not limited to,  
7 improved governmental cash flows, reduction of governmental  
8 overhead, improved governmental financial security, a  
9 combination of these items, and the benefit of increased  
10 public convenience. No payment to or withheld by a financial  
11 institution or other service provider may exceed the amounts  
12 authorized under subsection (b) of Section 25.

13 (d) Unless specifically prohibited by an ordinance or rule  
14 adopted by the governing body of the local governmental  
15 entity, a person may pay multiple tax bills in a single  
16 transaction.

17 (Source: P.A. 96-1248, eff. 7-23-10.)

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
19 becoming law.